

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT O 00432 241805Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 241754Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7426

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 0432

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, TD

SUBJ: POSSIBLE POSTPONEMENT OF OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REF: STATE 040671

1. IN VIEW OF THE ABSENCE FROM TRINIDAD OF BOTH THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (WILLIAMS--IN USA) AND MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (JOSEPH--IN BARBADOS), I CALLED TODAY ON MEA PERMANENT SECRETARY ABDULAH TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE POSTPONEMENT OF OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

2. FBDULAH CALLDD ATTENTION TO MEETING OF COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS IN JAMAICA APRIL 29 THRU MAY 5, BUT KNEW OF NO REASON WHY OAS MEETING COMMENCING MAY 8 WOULD NOT BE FEAFKBLE, ALBEIT RATHER CLOSE ON HEELS OF HIGH-LEVEL COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE.

3. SINCE EITHER PRIMIN/FONMIN WILLIAMS OR DR. CUTHBERT JOSEPH WOULD PROBABLY HEAD GOTT DELEGATION TO OASGA AND NEITHER WILL RETURN TO TRINIDAD BEFORE END OF THIS WEEK, ABDULAH COULD GIVE NO FINAL RESPONSE ON SUBJECT OF GA POSTPONEMENT. HOWEVER, HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT GOTT WOULD NOT OPPOSE POSTPONEMENT IF RAISED IN PERMANENT COUNCIL, AND EXPRESSED FULL UNDERSTANDING OF USG REASONS FOR DESIRING DELAY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PORTO00432
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750064-1036
From: PORT OF SPAIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750218/aaaaaqhb.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 040671
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2003 by RowellE0>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE POSTPONEMENT OF OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TAGS: PFOR, TD, OAS, (CALLDO, FBDULAH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006